

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 06254 301321 Z

44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 RSR-01 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 FAA-00 CAB-09

SSC-01 DOTE-00 /122 W

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R 300926 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5575

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E O 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ELDN, RP

SUBJ: REORGANIZATION OF PHILIPPINE CAB

BEGIN SUMMARY: RECONSTITUTION OF CAB BY PRESIDENTIAL DECREE ISSUED MAY 11 HAS BEEN PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED, AND BOARD HAS HELD ONE SPECIAL MEETING UNDER NEW CHAIRMAN, SECRETARY OF TOURISM JOSE D. ASPIRAS, FORMER CONGRESSMAN FROM LA UNION. ONLY THREE OF SIX CAB MEMBERS ARE CURRENTLY IN OFFICE. CAB STAFF EXPECTS BOARD TO TAKE UP PENDING ISSUES IN ONE TO TWO WEEKS. END SUMMARY.

1. PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 189 DATED MAY 11 (TEXT AVAILABLE ONLY RECENTLY AND IS BEING POUCHED EB/ AN) WHICH GREATLY STRENGTHENS GOP INSTITUTIONS FOR PROMOTION OF TOURISM, ALSO RECONSTITUTES CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD AND ATTACHES IT TO NEW DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM. COMPOSITION OF BOARD TO BE AS FOLLOWS: SECRETARY OF TOURISM AS CHAIRMAN; CIVIL AERONAUTICS ADMINISTRATOR (NEW TITLE FOR DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION, GENERAL SINGSON); COMMANDING OFFICER OF PAF, GENERAL RANCUDO; ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR AIR TRANSPORTATION OF

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PAGE 02 MANILA 06254 301321 Z

BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION; AND TWO OTHER MEMBERS APPOINTED BY PRESIDENT.

2. ACCORDING TO CAB STAFF WHICH CONTINUES TO BE HEADED BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AGCAOILI, ONLY FIRST THREE NAMED PERSONS (ALL FILLING POSITIONS PART TIME BY VIRTUE OF THEIR FULL TIME APPOINTMENTS TO OTHER POSITIONS) ARE NOW FUNCTIONING AS CAB MEMBERS. BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION IS NOT YET ESTABLISHED AND OTHER TWO MEMBERS NOT YET APPOINTED BY PRESIDENT. NEW CAB HAS HELD ONE EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING TO APPROVE NEW DOMESTIC SCHEDULES EFFECTIVE JUNE 1. REGULAR MEETINGS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN ONE TO TWO WEEKS AFTER ASPIRAS HAS COMPLETED BASIC ORGANIZATION OF HIS NEW DEPARTMENT. CIVIL AVIATION BELIEVED TO BE ENTIRELY NEW FIELD FOR ASPIRAS, AND HE IS EXPECTED TO TAKE SOME TIME TO ACQUAINT HIMSELF WITH CIVAIR ISSUES .

3. COMMENT. WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT EMPHASIS ON TOURIST PROMOTION ASPECT OF CIVAIR POLICY AS REFLECTED IN NEW CAB SET- UP, WILL LEAD TO MORE EXPANSIVE, LESS RESTRICTIONIST APPROACH TO GRANTING TRAFFIC RIGHTS SOUGHT BY U. S. CARRIERS. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT EXPECT ASPIRAS TO TAKE INITIATIVES IN THIS FIELD AT TIME WHEN PROSPECTS OF US- RP AIR NEGOTIATIONS ARE BEING EXPLORED BY AMBASSADOR ROMUALDEZ IN WASHINGTON. FURTHERMORE, ASPIRAS WILL BE PREOCCUPIED BY HIS MAJOR TOURIST RESPONSIBILITIES AND DEPENDENT ON AGCAOILI AND CAB STAFF FOR ADVICE ON CIVAIR MATTERS DURING INITIAL PERIOD.
HAMILTON

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